

## Secretary Designee Kolar Message



As I surpass my sixth month as the Secretary-designee of the Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs, I wanted to provide an update on some things that I have learned and what must be done to ensure our future ability to achieve our mission.

I greatly value the employees who serve our veterans across our state. We have so much to be proud of at all of our facilities; especially at our three Veterans Homes. The dedication that our WDVA staff shows in providing the best possible service to veterans and their families is our best asset.

When I first was appointed WDVA Secretary, I asked all WDVA staff to ask themselves before taking any action, "How will this best serve Wisconsin veterans and their families?" I hold myself to the same standard. I am pleased to say that we have started developing a strategic plan that reflects our offerings to our veterans and their families. The goal of this planning is to manage our current operations while also planning for future requirements at our Veterans Homes.

The nursing care industry across the nation is experiencing a shift in how it operates, and we are no exception. We at the WDVA are closely monitoring changes and determining how we can leverage emerging needs and technology to better serve our veterans and their spouses for years to come.

Over the next few months, we will be evaluating each building at our three Veterans Homes so that we can determine how we can continue providing top-quality care in a more efficient manner. To maintain top quality care, we have to also be financially stable. Our process includes looking at ways we can maximize the opportunities that our three beautiful campuses provide to our veterans and their families.

Serving as WDVA Secretary-designee, I have been inspired and encouraged by all of the important work our staff does to honor our Wisconsin veterans and their families. I look forward to working together as we implement changes that will ensure our future ability to achieve our mission.

Yours in Service,  
Mary M. Kolar  
WDVA Secretary-designee

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## Deputy Commandant's Corner



### Satisfaction Survey

Dear Families and Members,

Recently a third-party applied research company, My Inner View, conducted a satisfaction survey for our facility. First, we want to thank everyone who took the time to share their thoughts and feelings with us. In order for us to deliver the quality of care and service you expect, it is important we know how you feel about Union Grove Veterans Home.

With that said, we received important feedback through the surveys returned. According to the number of responses received members and families feel the staff is excellent and caring, they are pleased with the care they receive and they find the staff to be friendly and helpful. The Deli program is highly appreciated.

In addition to those positive comments, we learned about important areas where we can improve. You have identified food quality, housekeeping, activities at Fairchild Hall and employee staffing as the areas requiring more attention. We will be working on making improvements in these areas and putting some plans in place. Your comments and feedback will help us improve the quality of care we deliver. Thank you for participating.

As always, please continue to share your thoughts with us. Your feedback and comments help us deliver the quality of care you deserve and expect.

Sincerely,  
Laura Bruce  
Deputy Commandant

## Drum Circle

June 7, 2019



## Welcome Aboard!!

### Thomas Davis

**Army-Peace Time**

**Birthplace:** Racine, WI

**Occupation:** Retired Pattern Maker



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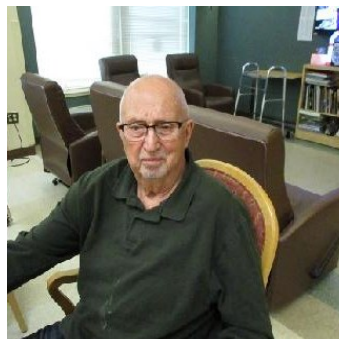
*Please welcome  
our new Members  
and Volunteers to  
the Veterans  
Home. Feel free to  
stop by and  
introduce  
yourself, we are so  
happy to have  
them here.*

### James Folger

**Army-Korean War**

**Birthplace:** Olerichs, SD

**Occupation:** Retired Certified Internal Auditor



### Glenn Hickson

**Army-Vietnam War**

**Birthplace:** Cottonport, LA

**Occupation:** Retired Marketing Systems Coordinator





# Welcome Aboard!!

## Robert Leeman

**Navy-WWII**

**Birthplace:** Dickenson County, MI

**Occupation:** Retired Railroad Employee



## Richard Nelson

**Army-Korean War**

**Birthplace:** Somers, WI

**Occupation:** Retired Truck Driver



## Dale Richter

**Army-Peace Time**

**Birthplace:** Rockford, IL

**Occupation:** Retired Unit Administrator



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## Welcome Aboard!!

### Genevieve Scott

**Spouse of Korean War Veteran**

**Birthplace:** Oak Park, IL

**Occupation:** Retired Administrative Asst.



### Kenneth Simon

**Air Force-Vietnam War**

**Birthplace:** Milwaukee, WI

**Occupation:** Retired—Unknown



### Stanley Vesely

**Marine-Peace Time**

**Birthplace:** Chicago, IL

**Occupation:** Retired from Sales



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## Welcome Aboard!!

### Eugene Vogel

**Army-Korean War**

**Birthplace:** Milwaukee, WI

**Occupation:** Retired from Advertising



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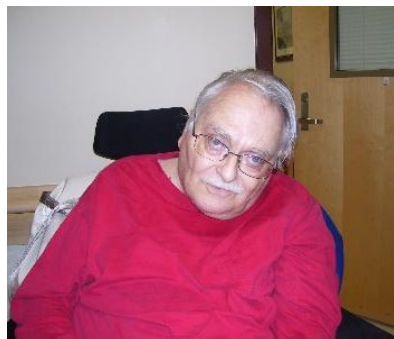
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### David Weiss

**Army-Vietnam War**

**Birthplace:** West Bend, WI

**Occupation:** Retired Cemetery Manager



### Bobbie Cain Sr.

**Navy-Vietnam War**

**Birthplace:** Cathridge, NC

**Occupation:** Retired Auto Mechanic



## Welcome Aboard!!

### William Lowery

**Navy-Vietnam War**

**Birthplace:** Broken Arrow, OK

**Occupation:** Retired Navel Chief

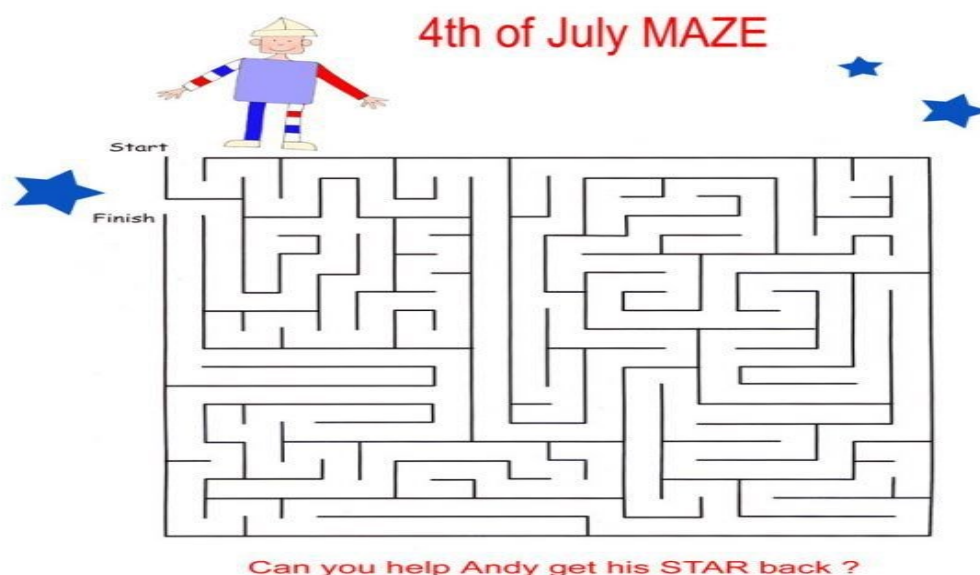


### Dan Fluck

Dan will be assisting in our woodshop and on Walmart outings. He is a Vietnam Navy Veteran along with being a member of the Navy Club Ship 40 and Kenosha City Veterans. Dan enjoys cycling, fishing, cooking, storytelling, reading, and wood-working.

### Ann Kulas

Ann will be assisting with Walmart outings and special events. She was employed as a grocery store manager and bookkeeper for 25 out of her 36 years of employment. She enjoys crafting, reading and party planning.







You are invited to attend a Grief Support Seminar on Tuesday, July 30, at either 10:00am in the Maurer Hall Chapel OR at 6:30pm at Cross Lutheran Church, 126 Chapel Terrace, Burlington.

Topic of Presentation: Reach Out for Help.

## Happy Birthday!!!



July 1<sup>st</sup>– Marian Velk-2<sup>nd</sup>

July 3<sup>rd</sup>– James Horn-3<sup>rd</sup>

July 5<sup>th</sup>– Dean Ohms-1<sup>st</sup>

July 6<sup>th</sup>– Wilson Scott-2<sup>nd</sup>

July 10<sup>th</sup>– Dorothy Davis-1<sup>st</sup>

July 12<sup>th</sup>– Dean Servais-FH

July 13<sup>th</sup>– Charles Brintnall-GH

July 14<sup>th</sup>– Nancy Stevens-2<sup>nd</sup>

July 16<sup>th</sup>– Melvin Ehlers-FH

July 20<sup>th</sup>– Lawrence Heusdens-GH

July 21<sup>st</sup>– Roman Ozechowski-3<sup>rd</sup>

July 23<sup>rd</sup>– Randall Dvorak-FH

July 24<sup>th</sup>– Jack Anderson-FH

July 27<sup>th</sup>– Harlyn Albert-GH

July 28<sup>th</sup>– Theodore Wasiak-FH

July 30<sup>th</sup>– Vincent Gambuzza-3<sup>rd</sup>

# Fourth of July Trivia

1. When did the Fourth of July become a federal holiday?
2. How many people signed the Declaration of Independence on the Fourth of July?
3. Which president was born on the Fourth of July?
4. When did the Fourth of July become a paid federal holiday?
5. T/F: There are Fourth of July celebrations in other countries.
6. Which president was the first to hold a Fourth of July celebration at the White House?
7. Which newspaper first printed the Declaration of Independence?
8. When were fireworks first used to celebrate the Fourth of July?
9. T/F: Three of the first five U.S. presidents died on the Fourth of July.
10. How many people lived in the American colonies when the Declaration of Independence was signed?

**ANSWERS:** (1) 1870 (2) Two (3) Calvin Coolidge (4) 1938  
(5) True (6) Thomas Jefferson (7) The Pennsylvania Evening Post  
(8) 1777 (9) True (10) 2.5 Million



## Our Wish List

Community Outings (admission tickets, parking etc.)

Gift Cards to NASCO senior living catalog

Monetary funds for activities supplies or special events

Fun size snack bars, bags of individually wrapped chocolate candy, Diet soda, small bags of chips (for prizes)

Walmart gift cards

(for a complete list of items please visit: **dva.wi.gov** -> **Veterans Home** -> **Union Grove** -> **Media** -> **Union Grove Wish List.pdf** )

### Veteran's Benefits

"Serving those  
who served"



For Veteran's Benefit questions or concerns, please contact:

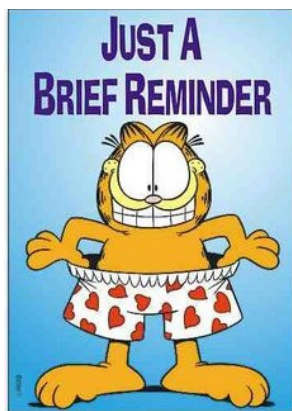
Roxane Unverrich  
262-878-6729



Congratulations to Diana Venus, Boland Hall 2<sup>nd</sup> floor Activities Therapy Assistant, for being June Employee of the Month. Diana was nominated by her fellow staff members for going above and beyond.

If you wish to recognize an employee for exceeding in their job, please fill out an Employee of the Month Nomination Form located by the front reception desks of Fairchild or Boland Hall.

## Upcoming Events



\*Thursday, July 4<sup>th</sup> - July 4<sup>th</sup> Parade.

Friday, July 14<sup>th</sup> - Father's Day Eat-Out-In.

Saturday, July 20<sup>th</sup> - Family Picnic from 11:30am—2:30pm.

\*Thursday, July 25<sup>th</sup> – Silver Lake Bingo and Lunch at 10:30am.

\*Friday, July 26<sup>th</sup> - Racine County Fair at 10:00am

Saturday, July 27<sup>th</sup> - Pennich Family Ice Cream Social & Car Show; Pub & Maurer Hall Circle

\*Outings that require Member sign-up prior to event.

# Volunteer Opportunities

Building:	Where To:	Date/Time:	Volunteers Needed:
Boland Hall-1 <sup>st</sup> Floor	Walmart	Monday, July 1 <sup>st</sup> 1:00pm	4-5
	Lunch Outing with 3 <sup>rd</sup> floor—TBD	Friday, July 12 <sup>th</sup> 10:30am	2 total
Boland Hall – 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor	Walmart	Monday, July 8 <sup>th</sup> 1:00pm	4-5
	Lunch outing to 1175	Wednesday, July 24 <sup>th</sup> 10:45am	1-2
Boland Hall-3 <sup>rd</sup> Floor	Lunch Outing with 1 <sup>st</sup> floor—TBD	Friday, July 12 <sup>th</sup> 10:30am	2 total
	Walmart	Monday, July 15 <sup>th</sup> 1:00pm	4-5
Gates Hall	Breakfast Outing	Friday, July 19 <sup>th</sup> 7:50am	1
	Walmart	Monday, July 22 <sup>nd</sup> 1:00pm	2-3
Fairchild Hall	Walmart	Monday, July 1 <sup>st</sup> 1:00pm	2-3
	SRB Fellowship Lunch	Thursday, July 11 <sup>th</sup> 11:30am	1-2
	Walmart	Monday, July 15 <sup>th</sup> 1:00pm	2-3
	Charcoal Grill	Wednesday, July 31 <sup>st</sup> 10:45am	1-2
Campus Wide Trips	July 4th Parade	Thursday, July 4 <sup>th</sup> 8:15am	FH-1, BH-2
	Silver Lake Cookout	Thursday, July 25 <sup>th</sup> 11:00am	0
	Racine County Fair	Friday, July 26 <sup>th</sup> 9:15am	8-12

## July

**In-house Volunteer Opportunities** – If you are interested in the following volunteer opportunities, please contact the Activity and Volunteer Director, Terri Presser at 262-878-6725 or email at [Teresa.Presser@dva.wisconsin.gov](mailto:Teresa.Presser@dva.wisconsin.gov)

- ◆ " Provide a movie night on 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> floor Boland Hall.
- ◆ " We are in need of a volunteer to assist Members with simple computer tasks on a one-to-one basis.
- ◆ " Maintain organization of the Fairchild Hall Library.
- ◆ " Assist activity staff with Member outings.
- ◆ " Escort Members to Happy Hour on Fridays at 2:00pm.
- ◆ " Escort Members to bingo on Tuesdays at 2:00pm.
- ◆ " Switch out seasonal bulletin boards.
- ◆ " Assist with writing Member's stories for their Memories in the Making art projects.
- ◆ " Play Monopoly, poker, or UNO with 2<sup>nd</sup> floor Members.
- ◆ " Water and weed plants during gardening season.
- ◆ " Assist Fairchild Hall Members with menu completion-Thursday afternoons.
- ◆ " Assist with Open Art projects on Wednesday from 1:00-3:00pm.

# Word Search

## *4th of July* WORD SEARCH

INDEPENDENCE

FLAG

JULY

FIREWORKS

UNITED

FREEDOM

LIBERTY

RED

WHITE

BLUE

PARADE

CONSTITUTION

GEORGE

JEFFERSON



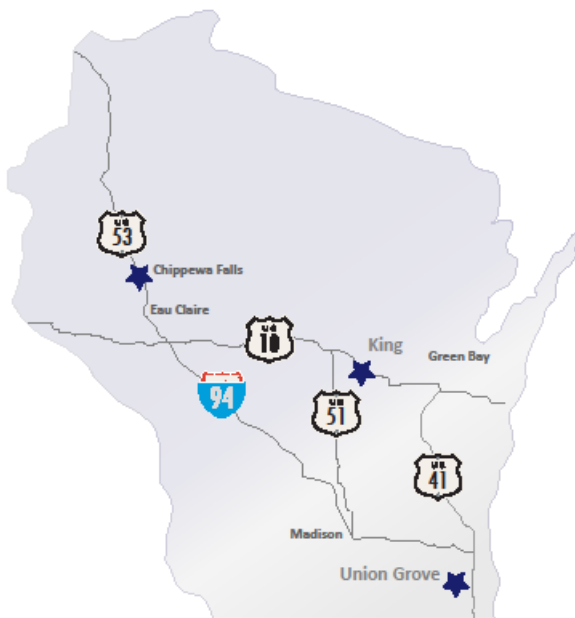
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FIRST CLASS MAIL

Department of Veterans Affairs  
Wisconsin Veterans Home at UG  
21425G Spring St  
Union Grove, WI 53182



One of our major responsibilities at the Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs is providing 24-hour skilled nursing care to our nation's heroes. The WDVA is proud of the three Veterans' homes we operate – Chippewa Falls, King and Union Grove – serving nearly 1,000 Veterans and their spouses.

The Wisconsin Veterans Homes are among the best in the country, boasting an excellent safety record and the highest quality of care ratings. Our homes are very popular among Wisconsin's Veterans, evidenced by the occupancy levels and waiting lists associated with each home, and our staff retention rates that exceed those of comparable facilities across the state.

We are here to serve those who have served us all.